

These draft meeting minutes await review and approval
by the Parish Council.

**SAINT CECILIA PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING
Tuesday May 22, 2006**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mark Bortle, Chuck Gilarski, Lisa-Underhill-Schmidt, Jon Weber, Terry Herrman, Sly Upah, Bill Haas, Karen Popelka, Board of Education Representative Larry Gross and Father Nienhaus.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jean Kresse, Randy Dalhoff and LouAnn Vulgamott.

OTHERS PRESENT: Business Manager Jerry Greving, Recording Secretary Jim Westphal, newly elected member Mark Imerman and Pre-School Advisory Committee member Darryl Bennett.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman **Chuck Gilarski** opened the meeting at 7:00 pm. He introduced and welcomed newly elected member Mark Imerman to the meeting.
2. **PRAYER:** **Chuck Gilarski** led the group in Prayer Services for Parish Councils.
3. **SECRETARY'S REPORT:** **Bill Haas** noted that on the web under Parish Community Life there were three addendums 1a, 1b, and 1c.

He also noted that under Social Concerns Committee, no addendums should be mentioned because these are financial reports. We should note instead that "Parish members may obtain copies of the Excel reports from the Parish Office."

MOTION by **Terry Herrman**, supported by **Lisa-Underhill-Schmidt** that the Minutes be accepted as amended. **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

4. **STAFF REPORTS:**

Board of Education – **Larry Gross** reviewed the notes from the Board meeting ([See addendum #1](#)).

Spiritual Growth & Liturgy – **Bill Haas** reviewed the minutes from the committee's meeting. ([See addendum #2](#)). Bill also encouraged everyone to participate in the procession to Inis Grove Park on the feast of Corpus Christi. There will be a lunch served following the procession.

Parish Community Life – There is a report contained in the Parish Council packet ([See addendum #3](#)).

Youth Ministry Report – **Father Nienhaus** reported that the Senior Breakfast was well attended. He also reported that:

- * Cindy Baughman has taken charge of the Appalachian trip and we still need to work at getting money in.
- * There will be a car wash in June.

Bill Haas asked if there was any consideration being given to the idea of sharing a Youth Minister with Saint Thomas Parish. Father said that is a possibility. He added that there have been 3 applications received so far.

Karen Popelka asked if any consideration has been given to including some youth representation on the interviewing committee. Father said there would be 2 or 3 representatives from each parish on the committee and that youth could be included. They should preferably be seniors.

Business Manager's Report- **Jerry Greving** noted a report was in the Parish Council packet ([See addendum #4](#)).

He also noted:

- We are within \$350.00 of showing a balanced income statement.
- Collections are 5% higher for the year
- A balanced budget has been submitted to the Finance Committee.
- Based on an expected 1 to 1.3% increase in revenues.

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Some cost cutting measures have been considered. Among them were:

- Sharing a Youth Minister with Saint Thomas Parish
- Reducing three part time teacher positions
- Recommending that the Administrative Assistant for Religious Education become a 10 month position.
- Investing endowment funds with the Archdiocese to reduce TAXA
- Slight increase in tuition for Religious Education classes and YIKES.
- Eliminate day care.
- Match salary increases to the Archdiocesan Matrix. Salary increases range from 2.5% to 4%.

Jerry suggested that we track the budget vs. actual regularly and report it in the Bulletin.

MOTION by **Lisa-Underhill-Schmidt**, supported by **Mark Bortle** to approve the budget as presented by Jerry Greving, Business Manager. **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

5. OLD BUSINESS:

Feasibility Study - Chuck Gilarski reported that the Feasibility Study is underway. There are about 15 Questions to be answered. Chuck said a mail survey is also underway.

Vocations – Bill Haas reported on the proposal found in the Parish Council packet ([See addendum #5](#)). **MOTION** by **Bill Haas**, supported by **Terry Herrman** to establish a Vocations Committee as proposed on the first page of the proposal insert. There followed some discussion on whether the emphasis should be on religious or lay formation. **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously. **Sly Upah** volunteered to serve on the committee.

Lay Formation – Bill Haas reported that it may be Ames' turn to host Lay Formation. He said we were welcome to participate in the Des Moines area lay formation activities and that there are good online courses from the University of Dayton that he will check in to.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

Pre-School Signs – Darryl Bennett, a member of the Pre-School Advisory Board presented some ideas for signs which would advertise the Saint Cecilia Pre-School existence and location. As this was part of the Board of Education's already balanced budget, he was encouraged by the Parish Council to go ahead with the plans.

New Committees – Evangelization – Father Nienhaus suggested we table this discussion for another time. **Bill Haas** volunteered to research the topic for next month's meeting.

Youth Minister – Father Nienhaus suggested that Youth Ministry be under the Board of Education and that the Youth Minister report directly to the Director of Religious Education rather than to the Parish Council.

MOTION by **Lisa-Underhill-Schmidt**, supported by **Mark Bortle** to make that change.
MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Deanery – Sly Upah handed out notes from the February 27th Deanery Meeting. ([See addendum #6](#)).

Facilities – Jon Weber reported that sod has been placed in the 2 islands out front and that flowers have been planted in the flower pots.

Jerry Greving reported a new door has been installed and that the crack in the new concrete is being taken care of.

Long Range Building Committee –

Social Concerns Committee – Chuck Gilarski reported on the success of the Father Haddad sessions. He said that Ron Smith has also joined the Committee.

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Sanctity of Life – No report.

Family Life Committee – No report.

Finance and Administration – Covered under staff reports. ([See addendum #7](#)).

Good Shepherd – No report.

Stewardship Committee – **Bill Haas** reported that 5 people participated in the May 3rd meeting, also that one CFM group is continuing its study of the U.S. bishops' pastoral on stewardship. At the next meeting, June 13th the group will be concluding its study on the bishops' pastoral. *Serving the Master, a Catholic Bible Study on Stewardship* is under consideration for the future.

Elections – **Karen Popelka** reported that Sly Upah and his family along with Ed and Mary Fawkes helped pass out and collect ballots. There were 1200+ ballots received. Mark Bortle, Mark Imerman and Pat Halbur were elected. Janene Greenwood was a close fourth and will be considered should a replacement become necessary.

Larry Gross reported - congratulations go out to Tim Simodynes and Rick Hoenig on being elected to the Board of Education. A total of 1178 ballots were counted.

8. OBSERVATIONS/EVALUATION/FEEDBACK

Larry Gross cautioned Council and Board members and members of the administrative staff to hold much of what happens at their meetings in confidence as rumors can become widespread.

9. PASTORAL COMMENTS -

Father Nienhaus said that the Youth Minister position may just be the first of several positions to be shared with Saint Thomas as cost cutting measures for both parishes.

10. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 pm.

The next regular meeting will be 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, June 26th in the Social Hall.

Respectfully submitted, **Jim Westphal**, Recording Secretary